

REMARKS

This amendment and response under 37 C.F.R. §1.143 is in response to an election/restriction requirement (Paper No. 030106) mailed March 6, 2006. Applicant is amending claims 1, 2 and 7 to improve clarity by this amendment.

In Paper No. 030106 mailed on 6 March 2006, the Examiner imposed a restriction between:

- Group I covered by claims 7-15, drawn to a method for making an organic EL display, classified in class 427, subclass 58; and
- Group II covered by claims 1-6 and 16-48, drawn to an organic EL display, classified in class 313, subclass 504.

In Paper No. 030106 mailed on 6 March 2006, the Examiner additionally imposed a requirement for election of species upon election of Group II, from among the following two “patentably distinct species of the claimed invention” identified by the Examiner:

- Species I: An organic EL device including: a specific combination of first electrode, upper and lower substrates, auxiliary layers, a pixel, organic EL layers, and second electrodes;
- Species II: An organic EL device including: at least a reflection plate;
- Species III: An organic EL device including: at least a waveguide;
- Species IV: An organic EL device including: a specific combination of upper and

lower substrates, TFT an encapsulating junction region and auxiliary layer.

Applicant provisionally elects Group II covered by claims 1-6 and 16-48, drawn to an organic EL display, and elects species I of claims 1-6 and drawn to an organic EL device including: a specific combination of first electrode, upper and lower substrates, auxiliary layers, a pixel, organic EL layers, and second electrodes, with traverse.

In Paper No. 030106, the Examiner restricted method claims 7 through 15 from the remaining claims because the Examiner believed that the product as claimed can be made by another materially different process. Applicant disagrees.

To support the Examiner's conclusion, the Examiner states on Page 2 of Paper No. 030106, "In the instant, the organic EL device of claim 16, 24, 31 or 37 does not require 1) auxiliary layers or 2) a pixel as recited in method claim 7." Applicant will now explain why 1) and 2) are not true, starting with 2) the pixel.

Regarding 2) the pixel defining layer, Applicant disagrees with the Examiner regarding the Examiner's assertion that the organic EL device as claimed in the apparatus claims does not require a pixel. To begin with, claim 7 never claims "a pixel". Claim 7 does however claim "a pixel defining layer". Assuming that this is what the Examiner is referring to on Page 2 of Paper No. 030106, Applicant submits that EL devices ordinarily have to have these layers to separate pixels from each other and to prevent cross talk between pixels. Even though this element is not always

claimed, it still is an essential part of EL devices or any pixelated display device. Since “comprising” apparatus claims are not required to recite every element, Applicant disagrees with the Examiner’s assertion that organic EL devices do not need a pixel defining layer.

Regarding 1) the auxiliary layers and the Examiner’s assertion that because the auxiliary layer is not recited in each of the apparatus claims, the restriction between invention I and invention II is justified, Applicant submits the following. Applicant has elected the specie I drawn to claims 1-6. Each of the elected specie claims recites the auxiliary layer. Similarly, each of the elected specie claims recites the pixel defining layer. Therefore, Applicant submits that it was improper for the Examiner to allege that the contents of unelected and unexamined claims are the cause for a restriction between the elected group (specie 1 of invention II) and the method claims of invention I. Applicant submits that the Examiner can’t have his cake and eat it too. If the Examiner is going to use the contents of claims 16, 24, 31 or 37 against Applicant, then he must examine them along with claims 1-6. If the Examiner refuses to examine claims 16, 24, 31 and 37 along with elected claims 1-6, then he can not use the content of claims 16, 24, 31 and 37 as a reason not to examine method claims 7-15 along with elected apparatus claims 1-6.

For this reason, Applicant submits that the Examiner must examine method claims 7 through 15 in the same patent application, in the same examination as claims 1-6 since the controverted claims 16, 24, 31 and 37 are not also being examined.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the claims of this application are in condition for

allowance, and early issuance thereof is solicited. Should any questions remain unresolved, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicant's attorney.

No fee is incurred by this Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert E. Bushnell,
Attorney for the Applicant
Registration No.: 27,774

1522 "K" Street N.W.,
Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 408-9040

Folio: P57019
Date: 4/6/06
I.D.: REB/ML